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51
- 9, März 1954

TO: Chief, EE

Attn: []

DATE: JAN 23 1961

FROM: Chief of Mission, Frankfurt

INFO: CON
SS

SUBJECT: GENERAL Operational/CART

MICROFILMED

SPECIFIC: [] Reports on Hungarian
Military Groups-in-Exile

JAN 23 1961

Reference: KOMA-9898; 18 February 1954, Attn: E

DOCUMENT UNCLASSIFIED BY []

1. Forwarded as attachments are [] reports regarding the Hungarian emigration. The reports are fairly old but are still useful since the situation within the Hungarian military circles-in-exile remains unresolved. Little headway has been made in the formation of a united Hungarian council (see reference). The evaluations on the reports were made by source and should be disregarded. The following reports are included:

Attachment

[] Log No.

Subject

A 22-1-54

Controversies within Hungarian
Military Circles-in-Exile

B 5-2-54

Hungarian Military Circles-in-Exile

2. Attachment A gives one side of the centralization argument, one which favors General ZAKO. Attachment B presents the opposing side which favors General SONYI in opposition to ZAKO. Note that ANDERS is reported to have reversed himself and to have accepted SONYI, rather than ZAKO, as the representative of the Hungarians on the projected East European staff of NATO. Paragraph 5 reports that Gerhard von HENDS of the German Ministry of the Interior may support General PARCAS, whose popularity is now greatly depleted. Paragraph 6 should be noted in that OERLEANDER has promised extensive (no details) support to the so-called Hungarian central representation (see reference). We cannot confirm the report in paragraph 7 that KOMA's Hungaria received DM 25,000.00 in the fall of 1953 from German sources. However, the information is credible in view of increasing German emphasis on gaining control of East European emigration leaders.

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Enclosures:

[] Reports Nos. 22-1-54, 5-2-54

8 March 1954

Distribution:

3 - WASH v/2, enc1. - DIRECT

3 - COM v/1, enc1.

2 - DOB v/1, enc1.

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A Handout A
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29 January 1954

Subject : Controversies within Hungarian Military Circles-in-exile.

Date Received : 2 December 1953

Source : A-C-2

Sub-Source : (Dr.) Zoltan MAKRA, editor of Hungaria

Evaluation : B-3

Asked to inform Source about the existing controversies among Hungarian military men in exile, Sub-Source stated the following:

1. The worsening of the long-existing crisis is due to General Gyula HERMEEY who, after his return from the USA, supposedly interfered in person with the prevailing controversies. HERMEEY is said to have influenced, in writing, (Admiral) HORVATH (at present in PRAGUE), former Hungarian regent, to use his authority in the controversy to bring about a final settlement. HERMEEY is said to have HORVATH's confidence at present, and to have submitted concrete suggestions to HORVATH for General SOKNAYEY's nomination (see special report).
2. In these initiatives General HERMEEY is supposedly backed by the Hungarian National Committee (HNC, WASHINGTON, D.C.). The Committee sent General HERMEEY to EUROPE with the mission to place the organization of Hungarian Veterans under the Committee's direction. The Committee in the USA is backed only by few military men. It has realized (according to Sub-Source) that the military questions will be of primary importance to the future work in exile, and that it must therefore win the officers, most of whom have remained in EUROPE.
3. Sub-Source also said that Tivadar ECKENREDT, head of the military section of the Hungarian National Committee, (despite his close friendship with HERMEEY and SOKNAYEY) continues to be a member of the organization of Hungarian Veterans (General ZAKO) in order to protest against the intentions of the HNC and General HERMEEY's machinations. ECKENREDT is said to have decided to come to PRAGUE to intervene in person on behalf of a settlement of the conflict. ECKENREDT is expected to arrive in February.
4. The solution of the present crisis which would be acceptable also to the group of General ZAKO is described by MAKRA as follows:

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Formation of a "Council of Generals" consisting of ZAKO, RUMYANTSEV, SZONYI, PARKAG, and ECKHARDT as the only civilian. This council will not become the supreme leadership of the organization of Hungarian Veterans (General ZAKO), but will have only advisory and representative missions. The organization will be represented in the Council by General ZAKO and will retain its independence. The council will work under the chairmanship of ECKHARDT. Sub-Source feels that with such a solution ZAKO's influence is being curtailed by placing RUMYANTSEV in a minority.)

5. In conclusion, Sub-Source stated that Polish General ALBERS who advocates to form an East-European General Staff at the IAW, Head Quarters in PAJS has recognized General ZAKO as the Hungarian representative.

On 19 December 1955, Sub-Source reported that the son of Hungarian General SZONYI, who lives in DUESSEN/PF and established contacts between Sub-Source and Professor von REEDER, is a friend of his. Sub-Source claims that General SZONYI is an opponent of General RUMYANTSEV. SZONYI Jr. supposedly told Sub-Source after the latter's election as President of the Association of Free Press that the Hungarians would have objected to the election of Vladimir PEKET since he is a member of the ASH.

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10 February 1954

Subject : Hungarian Military Circles-in-Exile

Date Received : 5 December 1953

Source : 4-0-2

Sub-Source : 4-4-3

Evaluation : B-3

1. Sub-Source reports that at a discussion between General ZAKO and General Hugo SONYI on 5 December 1953, in SWITZERLAND, mutual understanding became apparent. The discussion will be continued, presumably in mid-January. It was agreed that General SONYI should retain the chairmanship of the Council, whereas the organization of Hungarian Veterans, which is not affected by the new situation, should remain under General ZAKO's leadership.
2. Should General ZAKO refuse to make a written agreement defining tactics in the initiated understanding with Sub-Source, the latter is determined to represent the Hungarian military and with the assistance of those Generals around him.
3. The role of Tibor ECKHARDT, head of the military section of the Hungarian National Committee, is said to have become clarified. In talks between ECKHARDT and Sub-Source it is felt that ECKHARDT supposedly agreed to Sub-Source's reorganization plan. In the ensuing correspondence ECKHARDT also gave his approval of the measure taken. It is inexplicable to Sub-Source why for such reasons ECKHARDT changed his attitude and strongly advised toward ZAKO. Sub-Source feels the forthcoming trip (scheduled for 14 February 1954) to EURCIE of ECKHARDT, and hopes to receive confirmation of the expediency of his policy. However, it is known that ECKHARDT, as the sole rightist member of the Hungarian National Committee (HNC) may commit a number of political blunders during his European visit. ECKHARDT, who enjoys great popularity and many sympathies among the Hungarian emigres in EURCIE, might be induced by the mass of emigres, who display strong rightist tendencies, to launch massive attacks against the KKE and the left wing of the Hungarian emigration. In the opinion of Sub-Source, this would lead to a dangerous crisis within the HNC and also result in a severe loss of sympathies for ECKHARDT among American political circles. Sub-Source and SONYI are sceptical of accepting ECKHARDT as a member or chairman of the "Council". Sub-Source voiced skepticism as to whether an entry visa to SWITZERLAND would be issued to ECKHARDT in the face of this situation.

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4. With regard to General ZAKO's cooperation with Polish General ANDREJ SUB-SOURCE stated that at the last session of the circle in late November in PARIS, General SUNYI and General ZAKO had been invited to represent the Hungarians. ZAKO was represented by Major Franz KUCHA residing in BRUSSELS, BELGIUM. ZAKO himself cannot go to PARIS since the French would either not issue a visa to him, or would arrest him since he allegedly cheated the French intelligence of great amounts of money. At the session General SUNYI protested against the presence of General ZAKO's representative. General ANDREJ is said to have apologized to SUNYI and to have promised that, in the future, only General SUNYI would be consulted and invited as the Hungarian representative.
5. In mid-November Sub-Source had a long personal discussion with Professor von KRUEGER in DUESSELDORF. Von KRUEGER supposedly told him that he would be willing to give political support to the group of General Ferenc FARKAS. On the other hand, von KRUEGER was very critical of ZAKO. In the opinion of Sub-Source, von KRUEGER's described attitude is beyond comprehension since FARKAS has lately lost a great deal of influence within the Hungarian emigration.
6. Regarding the recent formation of a roof-organization of Hungarian groups-in-exile, Sub-Source felt that the groups involved were of the extreme right which want cooperation with the Germans. The chief persons supposedly are: HOMMER (group of FARKAS), Mrs. O'DELL (Colonel) SILAGI (group of ZAKO). Representatives of the new organization called upon Professor Theodor OBERLINDNER who promised extensive support (Details unknown). The group takes a sharp stand against the Hungarian Office and, particularly, against Sub-Source.
7. Sub-Source claims to know that the Hungarian newspaper Nuvola is published by Dr. Zoltan MAKRA; received approximately 10,000 DM from German sources in fall 1953. The financiers' names are not known to Sub-Source. In addition, Dr. MAKRA is said to have very good contacts in today's HUNGARY. He supposedly carries on correspondence, not only with his relatives, but with other ex-Hungarian people. Apparently, MAKRA's relatives are not disturbed by the authorities for this correspondence with MAKRA in the West.
8. The Hungarian National Protective Association plans to publish a monthly paper, entitled "National Defense". Anton PGORER has been suggested as the paper's editor. The funds for three issues have supposedly been secured. The financiers are unknown.

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